

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 DODE-00

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 L-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-20

IGA-02 MC-02 /098 R

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CNO

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ARA--LA/EP:RFWEBER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171547

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS:MASS, PE

SUBJECT:PERUVIAN NAVY INTEREST IN STANDARD MISSILE SYSTEM

REF: CHMAAG PERU 0214382 JULY 1974

LIMA 5679

1.THE STANDARD MISSILE SYSTEMWOULDHAVE TO BE CONSIDERED
A SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS SYSTEM WITHIN THEMEANING OFSECTION
4 OF THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT.PRESIDENTIAL DETER-
MINATION WAIVING SECTION 4 RESTRICTIONSONBASISOFIMPOR-
TANCE TO NATIONAL SECURITY OF US WOULD BE REQUIREDBEFORE
SALE COULD TAKE PLACE ONLY IN EVENT FMSCREDITORGUARAN-
TIES WERE INVOLVED, AND NOT IF SALES MADEONFMSCASH AND/OR
COMMERCIAL BASIS, ALTHOUGH OF COURSE UNDERLYING POLICY CON-
CERNS RE "SOPHISTICATION" WOULD REMAIN.

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2. USG MUST ALSO ADDRESS THE BROADER ISSUEOF WHETHER IT

WOULD BE IN OUR NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST TO AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL SALE OF THIS ADVANCED WEAPONS SYSTEM TO COUNTRIES WITHIN THE LATIN AMERICA REGION. QUESTIONS OF PROLIFERATION, SECURITY, COMPROMISE, ARMS RACE IMPLICATIONS AND METHOD OF FINANCING (CASH OR CREDIT) WILL NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN INTER-AGENCY REVIEW.

3. UNTIL INTER-AGENCY REVIEW OF THESE QUESTIONS IS COMPLETED AND UNLESS DECISION IS REACHED TO SELL THIS SYSTEM

GENERALLY IN LATIN AMERICA, IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO SEND USN TECHNICAL SURVEY TEAM TO EVALUATE PERUVIAN NAVY MISSILE REQUIREMENTS. SUCH A VISIT (EVEN ON A NO-COMMITMENT-TO-SELL BASIS) WOULD ONLY INCREASE PERUVIAN NAVY INTEREST, AND IF DECISION WERE REACHED NOT TO SELL AT THIS TIME, HEIGHTEN PERUVIAN FRUSTRATIONS.

4. PLEASE MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS IN REPLYING TO ADMIRAL ARCE'S QUERIES (REFTELS A AND B):

(A) PERUVIAN DIPLOMATIC NOTE OF MARCH 21, 1974 REQUESTING TECHNICAL DATA ON STANDARD MISSILE SYSTEM AND DISPATCH OF TECHNICAL TEAM TO EVALUATE PERUVIAN NAVY'S MISSILE REQUIREMENTS IS UNDER INTER-AGENCY REVIEW, AND WE ANTICIPATE REVIEW BEING COMPLETED AND RESPONSE PROVIDED BY MID-SEPTEMBER.

(B) INTER-AGENCY REVIEW ALSO INVOLVES CONSIDERATION OF QUESTION WHETHER THIS SOPHISTICATED, COSTLY AND CLASSIFIED SYSTEM CAN BE SOLD GENERALLY IN HEMISPHERE.

(C) IF MINISTER SHOULD SUGGEST USG NOT BEING FORTHCOMING, PLEASE REVIEW ALL ITEMS SOLD BY USG TO PERUVIAN NAVY SINCE MAY 1973 AND STATE USG CONSIDERS THIS TO INDICATE WILLINGNESS OF THE USG TO ACCOMMODATE PERUVIAN NAVY REQUEST TO EXTENT PERMITTED BY AVAILABILITY OF MATERIEL AND US LAWS.

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